

Public Chapter 327

SENATE BILL NO. 400

By Harper

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1630

By Pruitt, John DeBerry, Armstrong, Larry Turner, Towns, Ulysses Jones, Miller, Cooper,
Bowers, Lois DeBerry

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 34, Chapter 7, Part 1, relative to
public guardianship for the elderly.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 34-7-104(d), is amended by
designating the current language as subdivision "(d)(1)" and by adding the following new
language, to be designated as subdivision "(d)(2)":

(2) The Commission on Aging, in consultation with the Departments of
Human Services and Public Health, may develop and implement a statewide
program to recruit, train, assign, supervise and evaluate volunteer persons to
assist district public guardians in maintaining the independence and dignity of
their elderly wards. In developing and implementing such statewide program,
the Commission on Aging shall solicit input and resources from interested
organizations, including but not necessarily limited to community senior citizen
centers, churches and synagogues having senior projects and programs under
the auspices of the American Association of Retired Persons. Each such
volunteer shall possess demonstrated personal characteristics of honesty,
integrity, compassion and caring for the elderly. The background of each
volunteer shall be subject to appropriate inquiry and investigation. Such
volunteers shall receive no salary but may be reimbursed by the Commission on
Aging for travel and other expenses incurred directly as a result of the
performance of such volunteer services.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1997, the public welfare requiring
it.